

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 20 November 2007. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claims 11 and 16 have been amended to further clarify the inventive concept of the subject Patent Application.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Graves, et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0103057.

With respect to Claims 11 and 16, the Examiner has stated on page 3, section A of the Official Action, that “the claimed obtaining intensity...is met by color correction window 230 (Fig. 2) which allows the user to select/alter/adjust luminance and chrominance values (the claimed variation) and intensity/hue (the claimed intensity).” It is believed that this is a misinterpretation of the cited reference. The Graves, et al. invention is directed to a graphical user interface for performing color correction and methods for implementing the color correction. The reference to “intensity/hue (the claimed intensity).” apparently comes from paragraph [0047], in which it appears “...intensity of a pixel’s color (hue)...”, this is not the claimed intensity of the present invention.

It is clearly pointed out in the Specification of the subject Application on page 6, lines 2-3 that “...the movie enhancement method is adjustable through two parameters: intensity and variation...”. This intensity, once again, is not the

intensity cited in the Graves, et al. reference. This is clearly seen on page 6, line 12, in which “Intensity is used to control the amount of adjustment applied to Y.”, where “Y” is a luminance value. This is in contradistinction to the Graves, et al. reference, and the cited passage therein, in which the Examiner has cited intensity adjustment with respect to hue which is a color or chrominance element, not a luminance element or value.

In fact, adjustment of intensity and variation is respectively applied to luminance values and chrominance values. Adjustment of intensity is not applicable to chrominance values. This is clearly shown on page 8 of the Specification of the subject Patent Application, in which “Variation is used to control the color saturation level of the video signal.”

Thus, the use of the word “intensity”, as cited by the Examiner in the Graves, et al. reference is a misnomer. The use of the term “intensity” in the present Application refers specifically and only to processing luminance values stemming from radiant power and are completely independent and unrelated to saturation levels and variations of chrominance values. In fact, the Graves, et al. reference does not teach anything with regard to intensity.

With regard to the Examiner’s rejection on page 3, part B, where the Examiner makes reference to “the claimed calculating average and variance...is met where the system computes the mid’s and differences of the selected

luminance/chrominance value and the luminance/chrominance value of the other pixel.”, it is believed that this too is misinterpretation. The “variance” disclosed in Claim 11 of the subject Application refers to a statistical variance. This is in contradistinction to the Graves, et al. reference cited by the Examiner, specifically, Figure 5 in which the Examiner cited mid’s 520 as being equivalent to an average or a statistical quantity. This is in fact simply a constant luminance value between whites 530 and blacks 510 in the YUV color space. This does not in any way refer to a statistical calculation, as is recited in Claim 11 of the present Application.

Therefore, the Graves, et al. reference fails to disclose “a method for enhancing a video signal comprising obtaining intensity of luminance values and variation of chrominance values...”, as is recited by newly amended independent Claim 11. In addition, Graves, et al. also fails to disclose “a method for enhancing a video signal comprising obtaining user-input intensity of luminance values and variation of chrominance values; calculating average of said luminance values, variance of said luminance values, and variance of said chrominance values; calculating luminance-contrast adjustment from intensity of said luminance values, average of said luminance values, and variance of said luminance values...”, as is now recited by newly amended independent Claim 16.

Therefore, since the Graves, et al. reference fails to disclose each and every element of the invention of the subject Patent Application as defined by the amended Claims, it cannot anticipate that invention.

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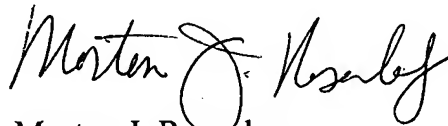
Response to Office Action dated 20 November 2007

It is believed that the dependent Claims provide further patentable distinction over the cited reference, and are at least patentably distinct for the same reasons as the independent Claims upon which they respectively depend.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due with this Amendment. If there are any charges associated with this filing, the Honorable Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account #18-2011 for such charges.

Respectfully submitted,
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